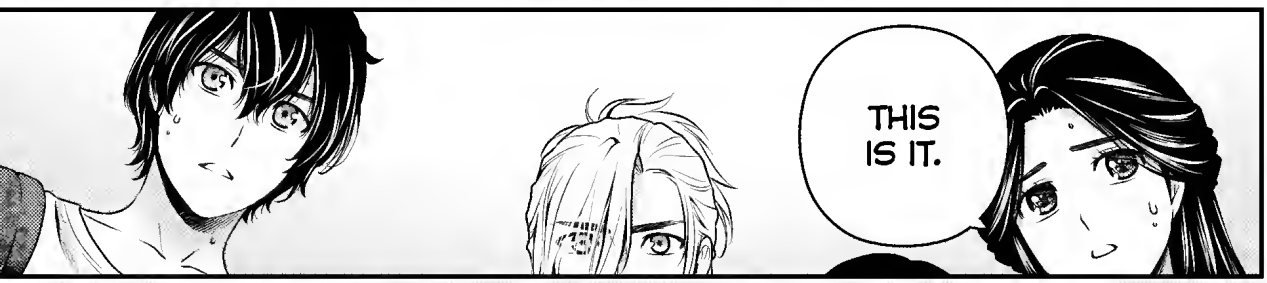
KODANSHA COMICS

CHAPTER 167

KEI SASUGA

HAVE YOU GONE TO HER HOUSE YET?
NO. I CALLED, BUT I WAS TOLD SHE WASN'T HOME.
THEN LET'S START THERE.


THIS IS IT.

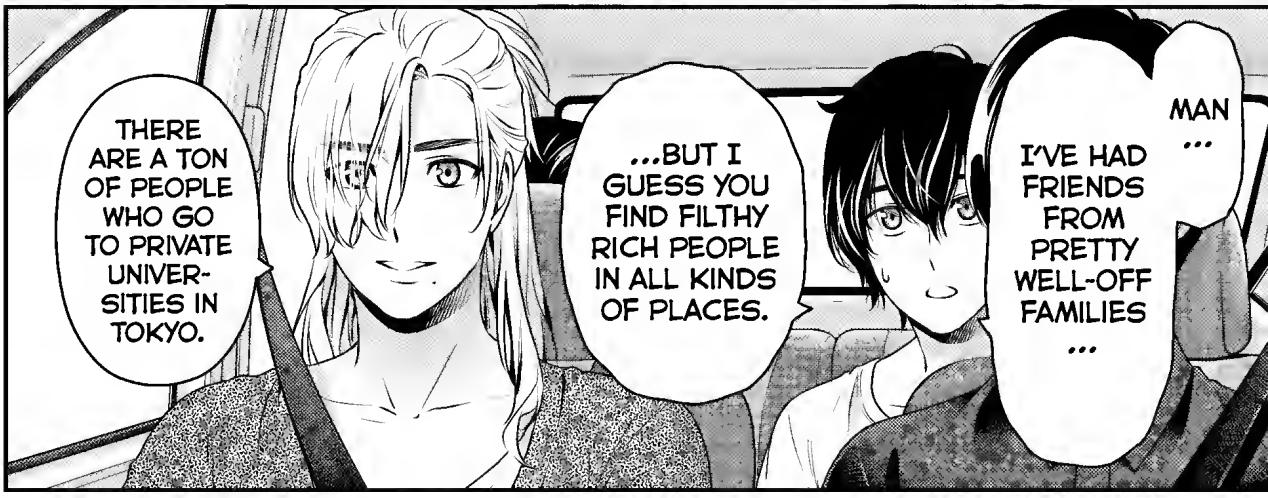
DOME X GIRL
CHAPTER 167: STILL, I...
KEI SASUGA
IT'S HUGE!

...IS KUSANAGI A RICH GIRL OR SOMETHING?
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT RICH,
BUT HER DAD'S THE CEO OF A LISTED COMPANY.
SOUNDS PRETTY RICH TO ME!

EXCUSE ME. MAY I ASK WHY YOU'RE ALL STANDING OUTSIDE MY HOUSE?
CAN I HELP YOU?
I SPOKE TO THE MAID ON THE PHONE, BUT SHE SAID YUKA WASN'T HOME.
AND WHEN I ASKED WHERE SHE WENT, SHE SAID SHE WAS TOLD NOT TO TELL ANYONE.
THE MAID ...?
SKREE
IF ONLY WE COULD GET IN TOUCH WITH HER DIRECTLY ...
THEN IT'S POSSIBLE YUKA'S JUST PRETENDING NOT TO BE HOME.
MRS. KUSA-NAGI!
OH, MY! MIYABI-CHAN?!
LONG TIME NO SEE!
HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?!
SQUEE
GOOD, THANKS.
HAVE YOU LOST WEIGHT?
AND YOU ARE?
OH ...
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU. WE'RE FROM THE DRAMA CLUB.
OH, DEAR! THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR TAKING SUCH GOOD CARE OF MY YUKA!
HUG ハグ
HUG ハグ♡

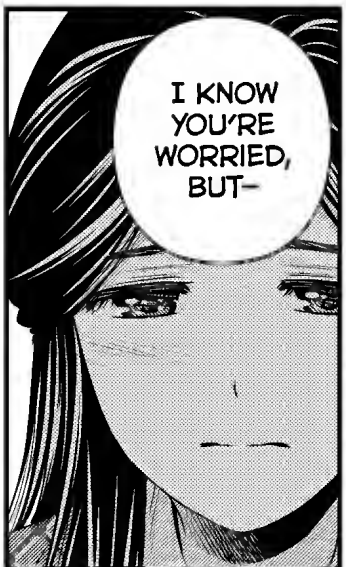
SHE WENT TO OUR VILLA IN KARUI-ZAWA.
MRS. KUSANAGI, CAN YOU TELL US WHERE YUKA IS?
SHE DIDN'T SHOW UP FOR FINALS, AND WE CAN'T GET IN TOUCH WITH HER AT ALL.
YUKA ?
VILLA ?!
THAT GIRL... YOU'RE TELL-ING ME SHE SKIPPED HER EXAMS?!
AND WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T GET IN TOUCH WITH HER?
UM... SHE'S KIND OF AVOIDING ME AT THE MOMENT.
UNBELIEV-ABLE! YOU TWO WERE ALWAYS LIKE PEAS IN A POD.
HOLD ON. I'LL CALL HER NOW.
OH, YUKA? IT'S ME.
I'M WITH MIYABI-CHAN RIGHT NOW AND–
BTZ
BOOP
BOOP
BOOP
DON'T YOU HANG UP ON ME, YOU UNGRATEFUL LITTLE BRAT! I'M YOUR MOTHER, DAMN IT!
MRS. KUSA-NAGI!
IT'S OKAY! IF YOU COULD JUST TELL US WHERE THE VILLA IS...!

SIGN: RENTAL CARS
日産レンタカー


MAN...
I'VE HAD FRIENDS FROM PRETTY WELL-OFF FAMILIES...
...BUT I GUESS YOU FIND FILTHY RICH PEOPLE IN ALL KINDS OF PLACES.
THERE ARE A TON OF PEOPLE WHO GO TO PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES IN TOKYO.

ARE YOU OKAY, SERIZAWA?
HUH?
OH... YEAH.
YOU'RE GONNA GET CARSICK IF YOU KEEP LOOKING DOWN.

HUH...


I KNOW YOU'RE WORRIED, BUT–

YOU KNOW,
EVEN IF IT WAS JUST FOR A SECOND, I WAS RELIEVED THAT YUKA EVEN BOTHERED ANSWERING HER PHONE.

I'M SO SCARED THAT SHE MIGHT BE THINKING...
...OF DOING SOME-THING STUPID.
YUKA'S ALWAYS SO CALM AND COLLECT-ED.
SHE NEVER LETS HER EMOTIONS GET THE BETTER OF HER. NOT LIKE ME.
BUT RIGHT NOW, SHE ISN'T ACTING LIKE HERSELF AT all.
KOKORO
Soseki Natsume

トゥンク
TUNK
...
IS THIS IT?
PRETTY SWEET VILLA.
I WONDER IF YUKA WILL EVEN TALK TO ME...
IT'S A NICE HOUSE ...
...BUT IT'S IN A PRETTY QUIET, SECLUDED PLACE.
IF SHE CAME HERE ALONE ...

HEY ...!
LOOK!
YUKA!
OH, NO! WE HAVE TO GET INSIDE!
THE DOOR'S LOCKED!
SHIT!
KRSH
THERE'S NO TIME!
STAND BACK!
ONE, TWO ...
YUKA!

DON'T DO IIIIT!
FWAP
THUD
KUSA-NAGI-SAN!

LOOKING FOR YOU.
THANK GOD!
WE MADE IT BEFORE YOU DID SOME-THING RASH...

OW...
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE, MIYABI?
ALL YOU GUYS, TOO...

HUH ?
RASH ?
WEREN'T YOU ABOUT TO HANG YOURSELF?

ONE OF THE LIGHTS IN THE BEAMS WAS OUT...
...SO I WAS JUST TRYING TO CHANGE IT.
SLUMP
SLUMP
SLUMP
GIMME A BREAK...
YOU SCARED US...
SORRY, KUSANAGI. WE GOT THE WRONG IDEA AND BROKE THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR.
NO KIDDING. I HEARD THE GLASS BREAK FROM HERE.
SLAP
MIYABI ...

HOW SELFISH CAN YOU BE?!
FIRST, YOU TELL ME YOU LOVE ME OUT OF NOWHERE, THEN YOU SAY WE CAN'T BE FRIENDS ANYMORE?! WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?!
I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'D FEEL AWKWARD,
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO DROP OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH!
HOW COULD YOU JUST DISAPPEAR WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING?
I KNOW YOU'RE HURT, BUT THAT'S SO SELFISH!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TOLD ME I NEEDED TO WORK ON MY COMMUNICATION SKILLS!
...
SORRY.
I...
...WAS WORRIED SICK, YOU KNOW.
WHEN I SAW YOU GET ON THAT STOOL FROM OUTSIDE...

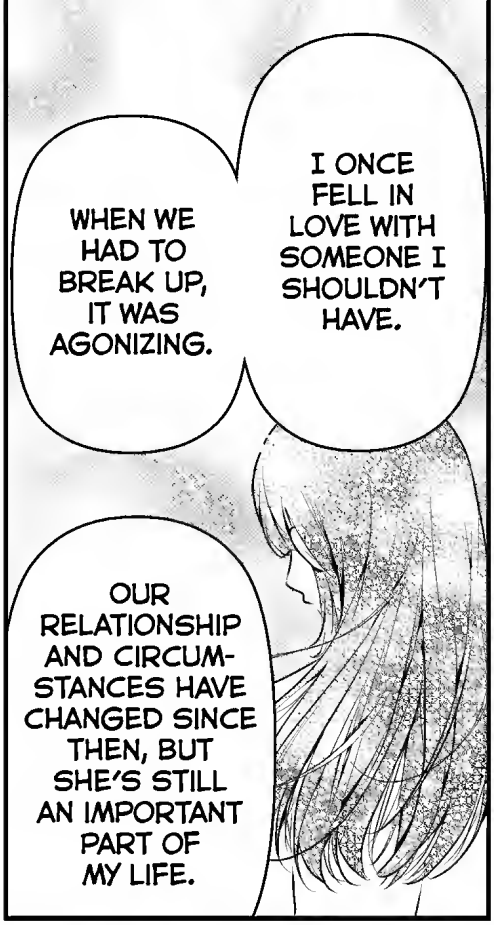
...I THOUGHT ...
...MY HEART WAS GOING TO TEAR IN HALF.
HIYAMA-SEMPAI ...
THANK GOD.
I'M SO RELIEVED...
I DIDN'T WANT HISTORY TO REPEAT ITSELF.
YUJI ...
...WENT THROUGH SOME-THING SIMILAR WITH HIS FRIEND, TOO.

HE WAS ...
...MY BEST FRIEND.
WE'D BEEN TOGETHER EVER SINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
SURE, WE FOUGHT SOMETIMES,
BUT WE WERE LIKE BROTHERS. WE COULD JUST RELAX AND BE OURSELVES AROUND EACH OTHER.
BUT THEN,
IN FALL OF OUR SENIOR YEAR IN HIGH SCHOOL...
HUH?
I DON'T MEAN AS FRIENDS, TAKUMI. I MEAN, LIKE, LOVE, Y'KNOW?
I KNOW!
YOU'RE THE ONE I LIKE,
YUJI.
I LOVE YOU...
I...
...ALWAYS HAVE.

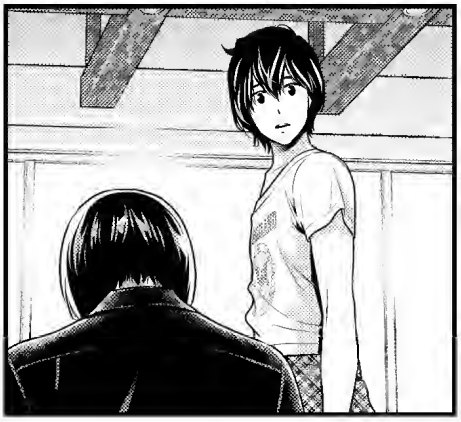
...AND WE JUST KIND OF DRIFTED APART.
I STOPPED BEING ABLE TO SO MUCH AS LOOK HIM IN THE EYE...
...A FRIEND TOLD ME TAKUMI HAD MOVED TO TOKYO, TOO, BUT WE NEVER SAW EACH OTHER.
THEN, AFTER I GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL AND MOVED TO TOKYO FOR COLLEGE...
I COULDN'T GET OVER THE IDEA THAT HE WANTED TO DO THE KINDA STUFF LOVERS DO WITH ME.
...OR HOW I SHOULD EVEN APPROACH HIM ANYMORE.
I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO ANSWER ...
I WAS DUMB-FOUNDED.
THE TRAIN BOUND FOR SHINJUKU, SCHEDULED TO DEPART AT 8:34 WILL BE...
DUE TO A HUMAN-RELATED ACCIDENT AT XX STATION,
1番線
各駅停車
8:34
8:43
THEN ONE DAY, ABOUT A YEAR LATER...
HUH ...?
プルルル... TRRRR
WHOA... SERI-OUSLY?
HEY, I'M GONNA BE LATE.
YEAH, SOMEONE JUMPED IN FRONT OF A TRAIN.

I WON-DER ...
...WHAT I SHOULD'VE DONE DIF-FERENTLY.
I DON'T KNOW WHY HE KILLED HIMSELF.
WHAT WAS HE THINK-ING?
WHAT PUSHED HIM OVER THE EDGE?
HOW CAN I NEVER GET TO TALK TO HIM AGAIN?
I KNEW TAKUMI BETTER THAN ANYONE.
WE WERE ALWAYS TOGETH-ER.
IT'S NOT LIKE I HATED HIM OR ANY-THING!
WHAT...
...WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO?!

I'M STILL TRYING TO COME UP WITH AN ANSWER.
SO, THAT'S WHY...
...YOU TOLD ME NOT TO LEAVE YUKA ALONE.
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOUR FRIEND CHOSE TO END IT ALL.
BUT I THINK...
...I MIGHT HAVE AN IDEA HOW HE FELT NOW.
I BET WHAT WAS PAINFUL FOR HIM ...
...WASN'T THAT HIS FEELINGS WEREN'T RETURNED ...
...BUT BECAUSE HE THOUGHT HE HURT THE ONE HE LOVED.
AT LEAST, THAT'S HOW I FELT.
THAT'S WHY I CHOSE TO WALK AWAY.
DO YOU REALLY THINK IT'S IMPOSSI-BLE...
...TO BE TOGETHER DESPITE ALL THAT?


I ONCE FELL IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE I SHOULDN'T HAVE.
WHEN WE HAD TO BREAK UP, IT WAS AGONIZING.
OUR RELATIONSHIP AND CIRCUM-STANCES HAVE CHANGED SINCE THEN, BUT SHE'S STILL AN IMPORTANT PART OF MY LIFE.

NO MATTER THE GENDER,
YOU CAN'T HELP WHO YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH...
...AND IT'S HARD TO MAKE YOURSELF LET THOSE FEELINGS GO.



I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO ASK YOURSELF IF THERE WAS ANYTHING YOU COULD'VE DONE, HIYAMA-SEMPAI. BELIEVE ME.
BUT ...

SO, EVEN IF THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF COMPLICATED FEELINGS BETWEEN TWO PEOPLE,
LIKE LOVE, REGRET, AND EMBAR-RASS-MENT...
...I DON'T THINK THAT MEANS YOU HAVE TO FADE OUT OF EACH OTHER'S LIVES.

...IF YOUR FRIEND'S FEELINGS WERE ANYTHING LIKE WHAT KUSANAGI-SAN DESCRIBED ...
...THEN INSTEAD OF BEATING YOURSELF UP OVER HIS DEATH ...
...MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY AND CHERISH THE TIME YOU SPENT TOGETHER?

MAGAZINE: POPULAR WINTER STYLES

YUJI!
YEAH ...
YOU'RE RIGHT.
GR
!
AB

HEY!
EVEN IF IT DOESN'T GO MY WAY...
...I'M GONNA KEEP LIKING THE PERSON I LIKE...
...AND GIVE IT MY BEST SHOT, ANYWAY!
WHAT ABOUT YOU, YUKA?
WHIP
WHIP
WHIP
WHIP
IS IT OKAY...
...IF I GIVE IT MY BEST SHOT, TOO?
HUH... I DIDN'T KNOW SERIZAWA HAD SOMEONE SHE LIKES.
I GUESS THIS MEANS... FRIENDSHIP RESTORED?
HEE, HEE...
DON'T EXPECT ME TO ROOT FOR YOU, OKAY?
THAT'S FINE.
I COULD SEE IT IN HER EYES DURING PRACTICE.
I FIGURED IT OUT, TOO.
YOU'RE KIDDING!
HUH?! YOU KNEW, SEMPAI?!
AND LEAVE THIS BONEHEAD.
WELL, LET'S GO HOME.
To be continued.